

09/14/98
jcs560 U.S. PTO

Practitioner's Docket No. B045

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

09/14/98
jcs560 U.S. PTO
09/15/98

NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): RANDI LYNN SCHINDLER

WARNING: 37 C.F.R. § 1.41(a)(1) points out:

"(a) A patent is applied for in the name or names of the actual inventor or inventors.

"(1) The inventorship of a nonprovisional application is that inventorship set forth in the oath or declaration as prescribed by § 1.63, except as provided for in § 1.53(d)(4) and § 1.63(d). If an oath or declaration as prescribed by § 1.63 is not filed during the pendency of a nonprovisional application, the inventorship is that inventorship set forth in the application papers filed pursuant to § 1.53(b), unless a petition under this paragraph accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.17(i) is filed supplying or changing the name or names of the inventor or inventors."

For (title):

PROSTHETIC DEVICE

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10*

(Express Mail label number is mandatory.)

(Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that this New Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date September 14, 1998, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number EL0231645500S, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

S. Davis

(type or print name of person mailing paper)

S. Davis

Signature of person mailing paper

WARNING: Certificate of mailing (first class) or facsimile transmission procedures of 37 C.F.R. 1.8 cannot be used to obtain a date of mailing or transmission for this correspondence.

***WARNING:** Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" **must** have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. 1.10(b).

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will **not** be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

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09/15/98 09:14:58

1. Type of Application

This new application is for a(n)

(check one applicable item below)

☒ Original (nonprovisional)

☐ Design

☐ Plant

WARNING: Do not use this transmittal for a completion in the U.S. of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4), unless the International Application is being filed as a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

WARNING: Do not use this transmittal for the filing of a provisional application.

NOTE: If one of the following 3 items apply, then complete and attach **ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF A PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION CLAIMED** and a **NOTIFICATION IN PARENT APPLICATION OF THE FILING OF THIS CONTINUATION APPLICATION**.

☐ Divisional.

☐ Continuation.

☐ Continuation-in-part (C-I-P).

2. Benefit of Prior U.S. Application(s) (35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, or 121)

NOTE: A nonprovisional application may claim an invention disclosed in one or more prior filed copending nonprovisional applications or copending international applications designating the United States of America. In order for a nonprovisional application to claim the benefit of a prior filed copending nonprovisional application or copending international application designating the United States of America, each prior application must name as an inventor at least one inventor named in the later filed nonprovisional application and disclose the named inventor's invention claimed in at least one claim of the later filed nonprovisional application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. Each prior application must also be:

(i) An international application entitled to a filing date in accordance with PCT Article 11 and designating the United States of America; or

(ii) Complete as set forth in § 1.51(b); or

(iii) Entitled to a filing date as set forth in § 1.53(b) or § 1.53(d) and include the basic filing fee set forth in § 1.16; or

(iv) Entitled to a filing date as set forth in § 1.53(b) and have paid therein the processing and retention fee set forth in § 1.21(f) within the time period set forth in § 1.53(f).

37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(1).

NOTE: If the new application being transmitted is a divisional, continuation or a continuation-in-part of a parent case, or where the parent case is an International Application which designated the U.S., or benefit of a prior provisional application is claimed, then check the following item and complete and attach **ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED**.

WARNING: If an application claims the benefit of the filing date of an earlier filed application under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c), the 20-year term of that application will be based upon the filing date of the earliest U.S. application that the application makes reference to under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c). (35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2) does not take into account, for the determination of the patent term, any application on which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119, 365(a) or 365(b).) For a c-i-p application, applicant should review whether any claim in the patent that will issue is supported by an earlier application and, if not, the applicant should consider canceling the reference to the earlier filed application. The term of a patent is not based on a claim-by-claim approach. See Notice of April 14, 1995, 60 Fed. Reg. 20,195, at 20,205.

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854160-2665160

WARNING: When the last day of pendency of a provisional application falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday within the District of Columbia, any nonprovisional application claiming benefit of the provisional application **must** be filed prior to the Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday within the District of Columbia. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3).

- ☐ The new application being transmitted claims the benefit of prior U.S. application(s). Enclosed are ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED.

3. Papers Enclosed

- A. Required for filing date under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) (Regular) or 37 C.F.R. § 1.153 (Design) Application

10 Pages of specification - including title page

2 Pages of claims

2 Sheets of drawing

WARNING: DO NOT submit original drawings. A high quality copy of the drawings should be supplied when filing a patent application. The drawings that are submitted to the Office must be on strong, white, smooth, and non-shiny paper and meet the standards according to § 1.84. If corrections to the drawings are necessary, they should be made to the original drawing and a high-quality copy of the corrected original drawing then submitted to the Office. Only one copy is required or desired. For comments on proposed then-new 37 CFR 1.84, see Notice of March 9, 1988 (1990 O.G. 57-62).

NOTE: "Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the application number or the title of the invention, inventor's name, docket number (if any), and the name and telephone number of a person to call if the Office is unable to match the drawings to the proper application. This information should be placed on the back of each sheet of drawing a minimum distance of 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch) down from the top of the page . . ." 37 C.F.R. 1.84(c)).

(complete the following, if applicable)

- ☐ The enclosed drawing(s) are photograph(s), and there is also attached a "PETITION TO ACCEPT PHOTOGRAPH(S) AS DRAWING(S)." 37 C.F.R. 1.84(b).
- ☐ formal
- ☒ informal

B. Other Papers Enclosed

____ Pages of declaration and power of attorney

____ Pages of abstract

____ Other

4. Additional papers enclosed

- ☐ Amendment to claims
- ☐ Cancel in this applications claims _____ before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)
- ☐ Add the claims shown on the attached amendment. (Claims added have been numbered consecutively following the highest numbered original claims.)
- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. 1.98)
- ☐ Form PTO-1449 (PTO/SB/08A and 08B)
- ☐ Citations

09152992-091498

- ☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit
- ☐ Submission of "Sequence Listing," computer readable copy and/or amendment pertaining thereto for biotechnology invention containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence.
- ☐ Authorization of Attorney(s) to Accept and Follow Instructions from Representative
- ☐ Special Comments
- ☐ Other

5. Declaration or oath (including power of attorney)

NOTE: A newly executed declaration is not required in a continuation or divisional application provided that the prior nonprovisional application contained a declaration as required, the application being filed is by all or fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, there is no new matter in the application being filed, and a copy of the executed declaration filed in the prior application (showing the signature or an indication thereon that it was signed) is submitted. The copy must be accompanied by a statement requesting deletion of the names of person(s) who are not inventors of the application being filed. If the declaration in the prior application was filed under § 1.47, then a copy of that declaration must be filed accompanied by a copy of the decision granting § 1.47 status or, if a nonsigning person under § 1.47 has subsequently joined in a prior application, then a copy of the subsequently executed declaration must be filed. See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(1)-(3).

NOTE: A declaration filed to complete an application must be executed, identify the specification to which it is directed, identify each inventor by full name including family name and at least one given name, without abbreviation together with any other given name or initial, and the residence, post office address and country or citizenship of each inventor, and state whether the inventor is a sole or joint inventor. 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(a)(1)-(4).

☒ Enclosed
Executed by

(check all applicable boxes)

- ☐ inventor(s).
- ☐ legal representative of inventor(s).
37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43.
- ☐ joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached.
 - ☐ This is the petition required by 37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 is also attached. See item 13 below for fee.

☐ Not Enclosed.

NOTE: Where the filing is a completion in the U.S. of an International Application or where the completion of the U.S. application contains subject matter in addition to the International Application, the application may be treated as a continuation or continuation-in-part, as the case may be, utilizing ADDED PAGE FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION CLAIMED.

- ☐ Application is made by a person authorized under 37 C.F.R. 1.41(c) on behalf of all the above named inventor(s).

(The declaration or oath, along with the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be filed subsequently).

- ☐ Showing that the filing is authorized.
(not required unless called into question. 37 CFR 1.41(d))

6. Inventorship Statement

WARNING: If the named inventors are each not the inventors of all the claims an explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, should be submitted.

The inventorship for all the claims in this application are:

☒ The same.

or

- ☐ Not the same. An explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the last claimed invention was made,
- ☐ is submitted.
- ☐ will be submitted.

7. Language

NOTE: An application including a signed oath or declaration may be filed in a language other than English. An English translation of the non-English language application and the processing fee of \$130.00 required by 37 CFR 1.17(k) is required to be filed with the application, or within such time as may be set by the Office. 37 CFR 1.52(d).

- ☒ English
- ☐ Non-English
- ☐ The attached translation includes a statement that the translation is accurate. 37 C.F.R. 1.52(d).

8. Assignment

- ☐ An assignment of the invention to _____
- ☐ is attached. A separate ☐ "COVER SHEET FOR ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) ACCOMPANYING NEW PATENT APPLICATION" or ☐ FORM PTO 1595 is also attached.
- ☐ will follow.

NOTE: "If an assignment is submitted with a new application, send two separate letters-one for the application and one for the assignment." Notice of May 4, 1990 (1114 O.G. 77-78).

WARNING: A newly executed "CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)" must be filed when a continuation-in-part application is filed by an assignee. Notice of April 30, 1993, 1150 O.G. 62-64.

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9. Certified Copy

Certified copy(ies) of application(s)

Country	Appln. No.	Filed
Country	Appln. No.	Filed
Country	Appln. No.	Filed

from which priority is claimed

☐ is (are) attached.

☐ will follow.

NOTE: The foreign application forming the basis for the claim for priority must be referred to in the oath or declaration. 37 CFR 1.55(a) and 1.63.

NOTE: This item is for any foreign priority for which the application being filed directly relates. If any parent U.S. application or International Application from which this application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 is itself entitled to priority from a prior foreign application, then complete item 18 on the ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED.

10. Fee Calculation (37 C.F.R. 1.16)

A. ☒ Regular application

CLAIMS AS FILED			
Number filed	Number Extra	Rate	Basic Fee 37 C.F.R. 1.16(a) \$790.00
Total			
Claims (37 CFR 1.16(c)) - 20 =	×	\$ 22.00	
Independent			
Claims (37 CFR 1.16(b)) - 3 =	×	\$ 82.00	
Multiple dependent claim(s), if any (37 CFR 1.16(d))	+	\$270.00	

☐ Amendment cancelling extra claims is enclosed.

☐ Amendment deleting multiple-dependencies is enclosed.

☐ Fee for extra claims is not being paid at this time.

NOTE: If the fees for extra claims are not paid on filing they must be paid or the claims cancelled by amendment, prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the Patent and Trademark Office in any notice of fee deficiency. 37 CFR 1.16(d).

Filing Fee Calculation \$ _____

B. ☐ Design application
(\$330.00—37 CFR 1.16(f))

Filing Fee Calculation \$ _____

C. ☐ Plant application
(\$540.00—37 CFR 1.16(g))

Filing fee calculation \$ _____

11. Small Entity Statement(s)

- ☒ Statement(s) that this is a filing by a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is (are) attached.

WARNING: "Status as a small entity must be specifically established in each application or patent in which the status is available and desired. Status as a small entity in one application or patent does not affect any other application or patent, including applications or patents which are directly or indirectly dependent upon the application or patent in which the status has been established. The refiling of an application under § 1.53 as a continuation, division, or continuation-in-part (including a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)), or the filing of a reissue application requires a new determination as to continued entitlement to small entity status for the continuing or reissue application. A nonprovisional application claiming benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, or 365(c) of a prior application, or a reissue application may rely on a statement filed in the prior application or in the patent if the nonprovisional application or the reissue application includes a reference to the statement in the prior application or in the patent or includes a copy of the statement in the prior application or in the patent and status as a small entity is still proper and desired. The payment of the small entity basic statutory filing fee will be treated as such a reference for purposes of this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a)(2).

(complete the following, if applicable)

- ☐ Status as a small entity was claimed in prior application
_____/_____, filed on _____, from which benefit
is being claimed for this application under:

35 U.S.C. ☐ 119(e),
☐ 120,
☐ 121,
☐ 365(c),

and which status as a small entity is still proper and desired.

- ☐ A copy of the statement in the prior application is included.

Filing Fee Calculation (50% of A, B or C above)

\$ _____

NOTE: Any excess of the full fee paid will be refunded if small entity status is established and a refund request are filed within 2 months of the date of timely payment of a full fee. The two-month period is not extendable under § 1.136. 37 CFR 1.28(a).

12. Request for International-Type Search (37 C.F.R. 1.104(d))

(complete, if applicable)

- ☐ Please prepare an international-type search report for this application at the time when national examination on the merits takes place.

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13. Fee Payment Being Made at This Time

☐ Not Enclosed

☐ No filing fee is to be paid at this time.

(This and the surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. 1.16(e) can be paid subsequently.)

☒ Enclosed

☒ Filing fee

\$ 395.00

☐ Recording assignment

(\$40.00; 37 C.F.R. 1.21(h))

(See attached "COVER SHEET FOR
ASSIGNMENT ACCOMPANYING NEW
APPLICATION".)

\$ _____

☐ Petition fee for filing by other than all the
inventors or person on behalf of the inventor
where inventor refused to sign or cannot be
reached

(\$130.00; 37 C.F.R. 1.47 and 1.17(i))

\$ _____

☐ For processing an application with a
specification in

a non-English language

(\$130.00; 37 C.F.R. 1.52(d) and 1.17(k))

\$ _____

☐ Processing and retention fee

(\$130.00; 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d) and 1.21(l))

\$ _____

☐ Fee for international-type search report

(\$40.00; 37 C.F.R. 1.21(e))

\$ _____

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.21(f) establishes a fee for processing and retaining any application that is abandoned for failing to complete the application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53(f) and this, as well as the changes to 37 CFR 1.53 and 1.78(a)(1), indicate that in order to obtain the benefit of a prior U.S. application, either the basic filing fee must be paid, or the processing and retention fee of § 1.21(f) must be paid, within 1 year from notification under § 53(f).

Total fees enclosed

\$ 395.00

14. Method of Payment of Fees

☒ Check in the amount of \$395.00

☐ Charge Account No. _____ in the amount of
\$ _____.

A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

NOTE: Fees should be itemized in such a manner that it is clear for which purpose the fees are paid. 37 CFR 1.22(b).

(Application Transmittal [4-1]—page 8 of 11)

15. Authorization to Charge Additional Fees

WARNING: If no fees are to be paid on filing, the following items should *not* be completed.

WARNING: Accurately count claims, especially multiple dependent claims, to avoid unexpected high charges, if extra claim charges are authorized.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Account No. 01-2224:

☒ 37 C.F.R. 1.16(a), (f) or (g) (filing fees)

☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

NOTE: Because additional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation must only be paid or these claims cancelled by amendment prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 CFR 1.16(d)), it might be best not to authorize the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possibly when dealing with amendments after final action.

☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)

☐ 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(a)(1)–(5) (extension fees pursuant to § 1.136(a)).

☒ 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (application processing fees)

NOTE: “. . . A written request may be submitted in an application that is an authorization to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. An authorization to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees will be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission. Submission of the fee set forth in § 1.17(a) will also be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission.” 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.311(b))

NOTE: Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, the issue fee will be automatically charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing the notice of allowance. 37 CFR 1.311(b).

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.28(b) requires “Notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application . . . prior to paying, or at the time of paying, . . . the issue fee. . . .” From the wording of 37 CFR 1.28(b), (a) notification of change of status must be made even if the fee is paid as “other than a small entity” and (b) no notification is required if the change is to another small entity.

16. Instructions as to Overpayment

NOTE: "... Amounts of twenty-five dollars or less will not be returned unless specifically requested within a reasonable time, nor will the payer be notified of such amounts; amounts over twenty-five dollars may be returned by check or, if requested, by credit to a deposit account." 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(a).

- ☒ Credit Account No. 01-2224
☐ Refund

Reg. No. 33,513

Tel. No. (310) 557-1511

Customer No.


SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

MICHAEL HUREY

(type or print name of attorney)

Kleinberg & Lerner, LLP

~~2049 Century Park East, Suite 1080~~
P.O. Address

Los Angeles, CA 90067

☐ **Incorporation by reference of added pages**

(check the following item if the application in this transmittal claims the benefit of prior U.S. application(s) (including an international application entering the U.S. stage as a continuation, divisional or C-I-P application) and complete and attach the ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED)

- ☐ Plus Added Pages for New Application Transmittal Where Benefit of Prior U.S. Application(s) Claimed

Number of pages added _____

- ☐ Plus Added Pages for Papers Referred to in Item 4 Above

Number of pages added _____

- ☐ Plus added pages deleting names of inventor(s) named in prior application(s) who is/are no longer inventor(s) of the subject matter claimed in this application.

Number of pages added _____

- ☐ Plus "Assignment Cover Letter Accompanying New Application"

Number of pages added _____

☐ **Statement Where No Further Pages Added**

(if no further pages form a part of this Transmittal, then end this Transmittal with this page and check the following item)

- ☒ This transmittal ends with this page.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTALNote: Effective October 1, 1997.
Patent fees are subject to annual revision.**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$)395.00**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	B045

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

- 1.
- ☒
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any over payments to:

Deposit Account Number	01-2224
Deposit Account Name	Kleinberg & Lerner LLP

- ☒
- Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- ☐
- Charge the Issue Fee Set in 37 CFR 1.18 at the Mailing of the Notice of Allowance

- 2.
- ☒
- Payment Enclosed:
-
- ☒
- Check
- ☐
- Money Order
- ☐
- Other

FEE CALCULATION**1. FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 790	201 395	Utility filing fee	395
106 330	206 165	Design filing fee	
107 540	207 270	Plant filing fee	
108 790	208 395	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)			(\$ 395)

2. CLAIMS

Total Claims	Extra	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20 =	X	
Multiple Dependent Claims	-3 =	X	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 22	203 11	Claims in excess of 20
102 82	202 41	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 270	204 135	Multiple dependent claim
109 82	209 41	Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 22	210 11	Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)**FEE CALCULATION (continued)****3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 400	216 200	Extension for reply within second month	
117 950	217 475	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,510	218 755	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 2,060	228 1,030	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 310	219 155	Notice of Appeal	
120 310	220 155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 270	221 135	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,320	241 660	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,320	242 660	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 450	243 225	Design issue fee	
144 670	244 335	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 790	246 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
149 790	249 395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	

Other fee (specify) _____

Other fee (specify) _____

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**SUBMITTED BY** Kleinberg & Lerner, LLP

Typed or Printed Name: MICHAEL HUREY

Signature: 

Date: 9/14/98

Complete (if applicable)

Reg. Number: 33,513

Deposit Account User ID: _____

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Applicant or Patentee: RANDI SCHINDLER

Serial or Patent No.:

Filed or Issued:

For: PROSTHETIC DEVICE

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 C.F.R. 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled:

PROSTHETIC DEVICE

described in: ☒ the specification filed herewith.

☐ application serial no. , filed .

☐ patent no. , issued .

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licenses and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern, or organization

☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME: Randi Lynn Schindler

ADDRESS: 1970 Benecia Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90025

☒ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

034530-034530

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statement may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

RANDI SCHINDLER

Name of Inventor

Randi L. Schindler

Signature of Inventor

Date Sept. 14, 1998

Our File No. 775403-B045

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION FOR

PROSTHETIC DEVICE

Inventor: Randi Lynn Schindler

Prepared By:
KLEINBERG & LERNER
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Los Angeles, CA 90067
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PROSTHETIC DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of prosthetic devices, and more particularly to a new, unique and attractive device which is especially adapted to conceal women's nipples and which is simple in construction and consequently economical to
10 manufacture.

2. Prior Art.

Women may often choose to wear a brassiere or the like on their breasts in order to provide a pleasing contour to their
15 figure by the effect of moderate pressure provided by the brassiere. There are times, however, when the use of a brassiere is undesirable. In the summertime, for example thin garments are often worn, and the brassiere is visible through clothing, and this can present an unsightly appearance. The only viable
20 alternative to this is for a woman to forego wearing a brassiere entirely. At the same time, many women do not want to dispense with the brassiere. This is because the brassiere provides a certain level of modesty and privacy when it is worn. This privacy is lost without the use of the brassiere. In particular,
25 the brassiere will cover the nipple and areola of a woman. Without the brassiere, the woman's nipple is likely to be visible through the woman's clothing. For many women, this is simply not

an acceptable alternative.

The brassiere also presses upon the breasts and body of the user by its belts and straps with a resultant inherent discomfort and inconvenience. Moreover, the use of a brassiere can be very
5 uncomfortable in hot weather and can cause excessive perspiration.

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SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention provides a prosthetic device which is intended to overcome the limitations of the prior art. In particular, the present invention provides a nipple cover which is easy to manufacture and use. The nipple cover provides an effective means of covering a woman's breast so that the nipple is not exposed or visible through thin or sheer clothing. The present invention can therefore be used in instances where the use of a brassiere is not practical. The nipple cover is also an improvement over the use of a brassiere because it is smaller in size and bulk. it also lacks the use of straps and belts which can cause discomfort. The present invention is therefore more comfortable and easier to wear.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of the prosthetic device of the present invention.

5 Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view of the prosthetic device.

Figure 3 is a front elevation view of the prosthetic device of the present invention showing how it attaches to the human breast.

10 Figure 4 is an illustration of a human torso without the present invention attached.

Figure 5 is an illustration of a human torso having the present invention attached.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of an alternative embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

A prosthetic device which functions as a nipple cover will be described. In the following description, for the purposes of explanation, specific construction details, arrangements, and materials are set forth in order to provide a more thorough understanding of the present invention. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art, however, that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well known manufacturing methods and structures have not been described in detail so as not to obscure the present invention unnecessarily.

Referring first to Figure 1, an illustration of the nipple cover 10 of the present invention is shown. As can be seen, the nipple cover 10 has a shape that generally approximates the shape of a female human breast. The present invention consists of a flexible, reusable and flesh-colored apparatus that covers the nipple so that a woman can go braless or wear a thin bra or lingerie. The device will be soft enough to conform to the woman's figure, yet hard enough so that it will not be affected by the shape of the woman's own nipples.

Referring again to Figure 1, the nipple cover 10 of the present invention has a generally hemispherical shape. It is not solid, but rather is hollow on the inside. The present invention is not intended to replace or enhance a woman's breast. Its' intended purpose is to provide a cover for the nipple. The present invention is also not intended to provide support to the

breast, as with a traditional brassiere. Therefore, the nipple cover can be manufactured from a relatively thin material.

Referring next to Figure 2, a cross sectional view of the nipple cover is shown. The nipple cover, as noted above is hollow inside. The thickness of the nipple cover is not uniform. The edges 15 of the device will gradually taper to be thinner near the edges 15. This will allow the nipple cover to blend with the breast surface (as shown in figure 2) for a continuous smoothness.

An absorbent pad 12 is located on the inner portion of the nipple cover, near the center of the device. The absorbent pad 12 is manufactured from a thin, cell-like, material. The purpose of the pad is to absorb perspiration and moisture from the user's skin. The device will also include a number of tiny holes 18. The holes are best shown in Figures 1 and 3. The holes further allow perspiration to be released, thereby increasing the comfort of the user. The holes are concentrated near the center of the nipple cover.

The nipple cover is of sufficient size such that it can cover a user's entire nipple and areola. The cover will also extend a short distance beyond this area to ensure complete coverage. In the preferred embodiment, the nipple cover will extend approximately one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch beyond the areola. The exact size of the nipple cover, however will vary, as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The human breast takes on a wide variety of shapes and sizes, and it therefore anticipated that the nipple cover will be

constructed in range of different sizes and styles. The illustration of Figure 1 is therefore intended to be for illustrative purposes only, and is not intended to provide a specific limitation on the size and style of the present

invention. It is anticipated that that nipple cover will also be manufactured in a range of different colors, from dark to light. This will enable the nipple cover to match the skin color of the person wearing it.

The preferred embodiment of the nipple cover includes an adhesive material 14 which will permit it to more easily attached to the breast. The adhesive material may be tape, glue or other suitable material. In the preferred embodiment, the adhesive will be non-toxic and hypo-allergenic. Referring again to Figure 2, the adhesive 14 does not completely cover the inside surface of the nipple cover. The adhesive is located only along the outer edges of the cover 10. The adhesive forms an annular ring around the inner edges of the device. In an alternative embodiment, the adhesive may be omitted.

The present invention may be manufactured for a single use, or it may be reusable. If the device is manufactured for a single use, then it will have the adhesive permanently attached to the inner surface of the nipple cover. If the device is reusable, then the adhesive can be removed after each use. A new layer of adhesive can then be applied on the surface after cleaning.

The present invention will be manufactured from a soft "skin-like" rubbery and flexible material. The material will be

flexible so that the device can conform to the shape of the user's breast. The material must be soft in feel and look. At the same time it must be solid enough not to crinkle or change it's smoothness if the user's nipple hardens underneath. The preferred embodiment of the present invention utilizes plastic urethane. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that other, equivalent materials may also be used with equal effectiveness. The specific material chosen may vary from the preferred embodiment.

An alternative embodiment of the invention is illustrated in Figure 6. In the alternative embodiment, the prosthetic device 20 also covers the breast, and it hides the woman's own nipples. The outer surface of the nipple cover, however, includes a simulated, or synthetic nipple 24. This alternative embodiment can be used when the woman desires to have the appearance of an erect nipple visible through her clothing. The synthetic nipple is manufactured by including a protrusion on the nipple cover in the approximate location where the woman's own nipple would naturally be located. The size and look of the synthetic nipple can be varied as a matter of design choice. For example, the size of the nipple may be exaggerated in some instances.

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The description of the present invention has been made with respect to specific arrangements and constructions of a nipple cover. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the foregoing description is for illustrative purposes only, and that
5 various changes and modifications can be made to the present invention without departing from the overall spirit and scope of the present invention. The full extent of the present invention is defined and limited only by the following claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A nipple-cover, said nipple cover being adapted to
2 cover a human breast, said nipple cover having an inner surface
3 and an outer surface, wherein said outer surface is substantially
4 smooth, and wherein said inner surface has disposed thereon an
5 adhesive means for connecting said nipple cover to a human body.

1 2. The device of claim 1 wherein said nipple cover is
2 manufactured from a flexible plastic material.

1 3. The device of claim 1 wherein said nipple cover has the
2 shape of a hollow hemisphere.

1 4. The device of claim 3 wherein said nipple cover is
2 substantially thin.

1 5. The device of claim 1, further comprising an absorbent
2 pad disposed on said inner surface of said cover.

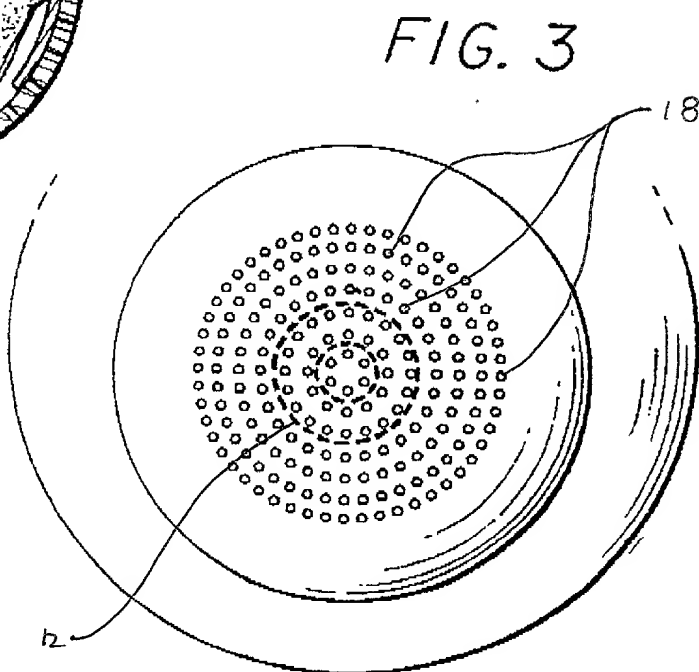
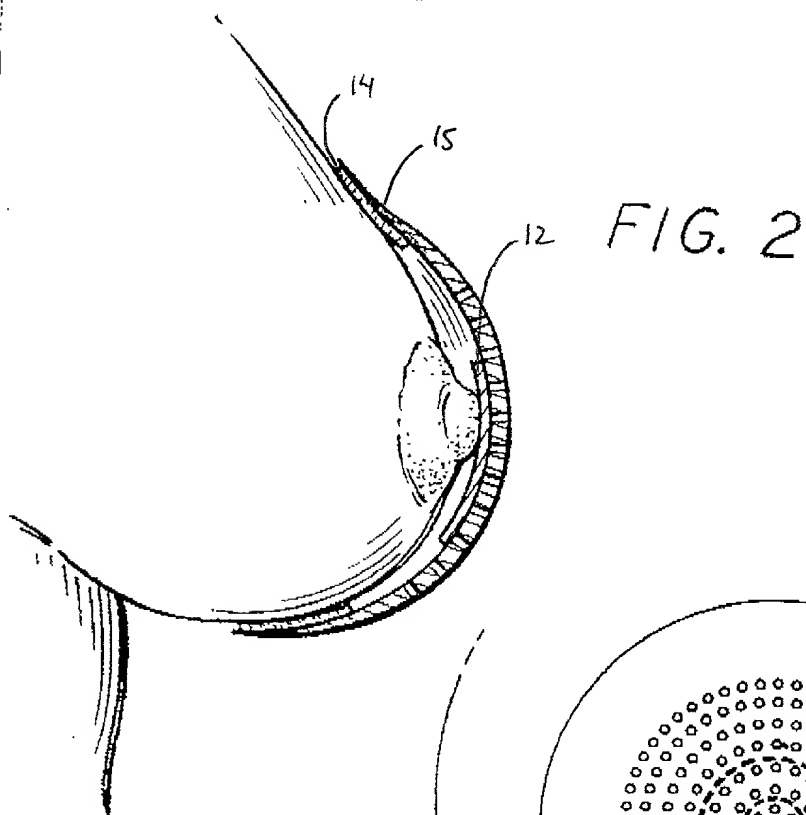
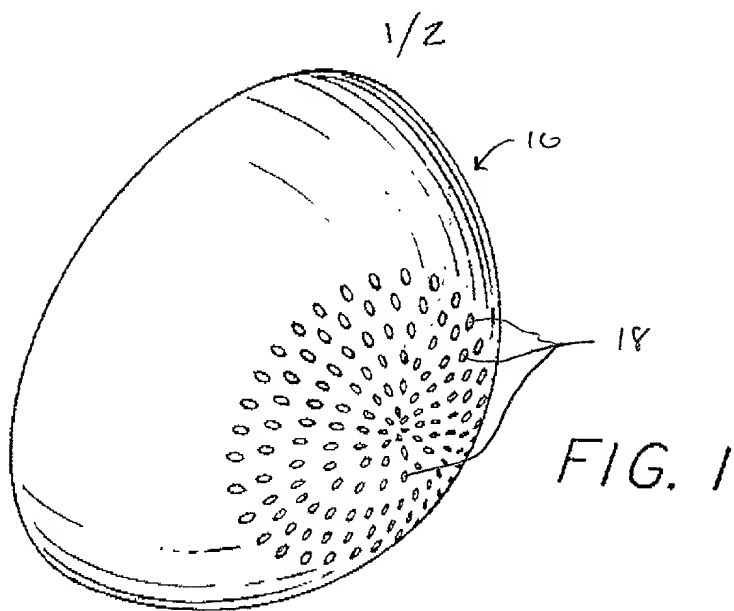
1 6. The device of claim 1, further comprising a plurality
2 of holes disposed through said cover.

1 7. The device of claim 1, wherein said cover tapers in
2 thickness near an edge of said cover.

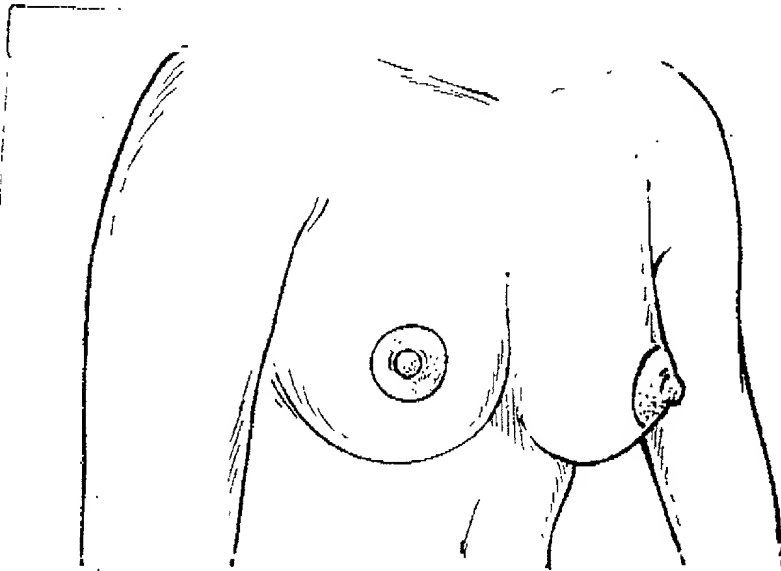
1 8. The device of claim 1, wherein said adhesive may be
2 removed after each use of said cover.

1 9. A prosthetic device, said prosthetic device being a
2 hollow, substantially thin, hemisphere, said device having an
3 inner surface and an outer surface, said inner surface including
4 means for attaching said prosthetic device to a human breast, and
5 said outer surface being substantially smooth.

1 10. The device of claim 9, further comprising a protrusion
2 coupled to said outer surface, said protrusion having the shape
3 of a human nipple.



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FIG. 4

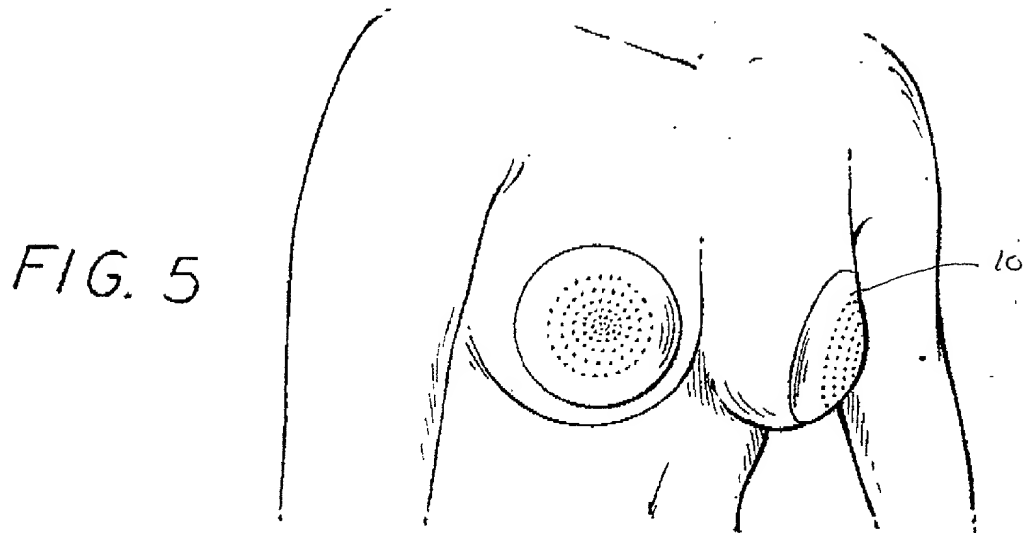


FIG. 5

16

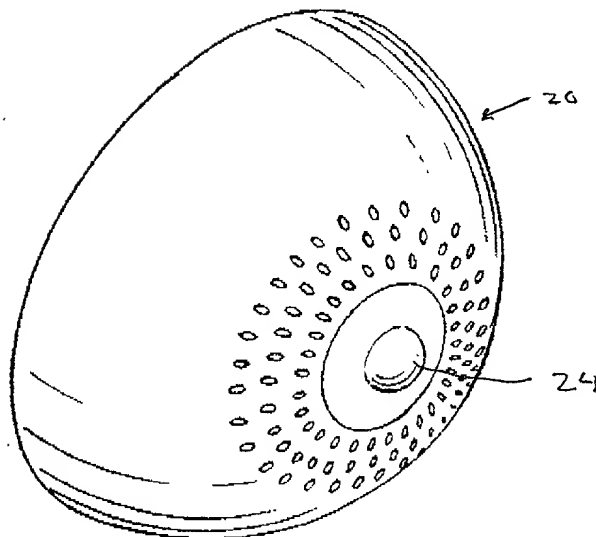


FIG. 6

24

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COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is of the following type:

(check one applicable item below)

- ☒ original.
- ☐ design.
- ☐ supplemental.

NOTE: If the declaration is for an International Application being filed as a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application, do not check next item; check appropriate one of last three items.

- ☐ national stage of PCT.

NOTE: If one of the following 3 items apply, then complete and also attach ADDED PAGES FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR C-I-P.

NOTE: See 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d) (continued prosecution application) for use of a prior nonprovisional application declaration in the continuation or divisional application being filed on behalf of the same or fewer of the inventors named in the prior application.

- ☐ divisional.
- ☐ continuation.

NOTE: Where an application discloses and claims subject matter not disclosed in the prior application, or a continuation or divisional application names an inventor not named in the prior application, a continuation-in-part application must be filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) (application filing requirements — nonprovisional application).

- ☐ continuation-in-part (C-I-P).

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

WARNING: If the inventors are each not the inventors of all the claims, an explanation of the facts, including the ownership of all the claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, should be submitted.

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION

PROSTHETIC DEVICE

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

the specification of which:

(complete (a), (b), or (c))

(a) ☒ is attached hereto.

NOTE: "The following combinations of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed on the application filing date with a specification are acceptable as minimums for identifying a specification and compliance with any one of the items below will be accepted as complying with the identification requirement of 37 CFR 1.63:

"(1) name of inventor(s), and reference to an attached specification which is both attached to the oath or declaration at the time of execution and submitted with the oath or declaration on filing;

"(2) name of inventor(s), and attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed;
or

"(3) name of inventor(s), and title which was on the specification as filed."

Notice of July 13, 1995 (1177 O.G. 60).

(b) ☐ was filed on _____, as ☐ Serial No. 0 / _____
or ☐ _____
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

NOTE: Amendments filed after the original papers are deposited with the PTO that contain new matter are not accorded a filing date by being referred to in the declaration. Accordingly, the amendments involved are those filed with the application papers or, in the case of a supplemental declaration, are those amendments claiming matter not encompassed in the original statement of invention or claims. See 37 CFR 1.67.

NOTE: "The following combinations of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed after the filing date are acceptable as minimums for identifying a specification and compliance with any one of the items below will be accepted as complying with the identification requirement of 37 CFR 1.63:

"(1) name of inventor(s), and application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number; e.g., 08/123,456);

"(2) name of inventor(s), serial number and filing date;

"(3) name of inventor(s) and attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed;

"(4) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and filing date;

"(5) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and reference to an attached specification which is both attached to the oath or declaration at the time of execution and submitted with the oath or declaration; or

"(6) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and accompanied by a cover letter accurately identifying the application for which it was intended by either the application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number; e.g., 08/123,456), or serial number and filing date. Absent any statement(s) to the contrary, it will be presumed that the application filed in the PTO is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the oath or declaration."

Notice of July 13, 1995 (1177 O.G. 60).

(c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. _____, filed on _____ and as amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ (if any).

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION (37 C.F.R. § 1.67(b))

(complete the following where a supplemental declaration is being submitted)

- ☐ I hereby declare that the subject matter of the
- ☐ attached amendment
 - ☐ amendment filed on _____

was part of my/our invention and was invented before the filing date of the original application, above-identified, for such invention.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56,

(also check the following items, if desired)

- ☒ and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, and
- ☐ in compliance with this duty, there is attached an information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d))

NOTE: "The claim to priority need be in no special form and may be made by the attorney or agent if the foreign application is referred to in the oath or declaration as required by § 1.63. The claim for priority and the certified copy of the foreign application specified in 35 U.S.C. 119(b) must be filed in the case of an interference (§ 1.630), when necessary to overcome the date of a reference relied upon by the examiner, when specifically required by the examiner, and in all other situations, before the patent is granted. If the claim for priority or the certified copy of the foreign application is filed after the date the issue fee is paid, it must be accompanied by a petition requesting entry and by the fee set forth in § 1.17(f). If the certified copy is not in the English language, a translation need not be filed except in the case of interference; or when necessary to overcome the date of a reference relied upon by the examiner; or when specifically required by the examiner, in which event an English language translation must be filed together with a statement that the translation of the certified copy is accurate." 37 C.F.R. § 1.55(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §§ 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

(complete (d) or (e))

- (d) ☒ no such applications have been filed.
- (e) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows.

NOTE: Where item (c) is entered above and the International Application which designated the U.S. itself claimed priority check item (e), enter the details below and make the priority claim.

091498-2662560

**PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION
AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d)**

COUNTRY (OR INDICATE IF PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)
(34 U.S.C. § 119(e))

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING DATE

_____/_____
_____/_____
_____/_____

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER US/PCT APPLICATION(S)
UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120

- ☐ The claim for the benefit of any such applications are set forth in the attached ADDED PAGES TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART (C-I-P) APPLICATION.

1264760-26623160

**ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION**

NOTE: If the application filed more than 12 months from the filing date of this application is a PCT filing forming the basis for this application entering the United States as (1) the national stage, or (2) a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part, then also complete ADDED PAGES TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR C-I-P APPLICATION for benefit of the prior U.S. or PCT application(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

(list name and registration number)

Marshall A. Lerner - Reg. No. 24108
Marvin H. Kleinberg - Reg. No. 18402
Michael Hurey - Reg. No. 33513

(check the following item, if applicable)

- ☒ I hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.
- ☐ Attached, as part of this declaration and power of attorney, is the authorization of the above-named practitioner(s) to accept and follow instructions from my representative(s).

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:
(Name and telephone number)

☒ Address

Michael Hurey, Esq.
Kleinberg & Lerner, LLP
2049 Century Park East, Ste. 1080
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Michael Hurey

☐ Customer Number _____

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

NOTE: Carefully indicate the family (or last) name, as it should appear on the filing receipt and all other documents.

Full name of sole or first inventor

RANDI (GIVEN NAME) LYNN (MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME) SCHINDLER (FAMILY (OR LAST NAME))

Inventor's signature *Randi Lynn Schindler*

Date September 14, 1998 Country of Citizenship U.S.A.

Residence 1970 Benecia Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025

Post Office Address

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

(GIVEN NAME) (MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME) (FAMILY (OR LAST NAME))

Inventor's signature

Date Country of Citizenship

Residence

Post Office Address

Full name of third joint inventor, if any

(GIVEN NAME) (MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME) (FAMILY (OR LAST NAME))

Inventor's signature

Date Country of Citizenship

Residence

Post Office Address

0915992 "25625760"

(check proper box(es) for any of the following added page(s)
that form a part of this declaration)

- ☐ **Signature** for fourth and subsequent joint inventors. *Number of pages added* _____

* * *

- ☐ **Signature** by administrator(trix), executor(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. *Number of pages added* _____

* * *

- ☐ **Signature** for inventor who refuses to sign or cannot be reached by person authorized under 37 CFR 1.47. *Number of pages added* _____

* * *

- ☐ Added page for **signature** by one joint inventor on behalf of deceased inventor(s) where legal representative cannot be appointed in time. (37 CFR 1.47)

* * *

- ☐ Added pages to combined declaration and power of attorney for divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part (C-I-P) application.

☐ Number of pages added _____

* * *

- ☐ Authorization of practitioner(s) to accept and follow instructions from representative.

* * *

(if no further pages form a part of this Declaration,
then end this Declaration with this page and check the following item)

☒ This declaration ends with this page.